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The situation in the Middle East

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Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 7 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 22 to 31 December 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 17, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 7 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 22 to 31 December 2007, inclusive

Air violations

On 22 December 2007, between 1100 and 1210 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft intermittently circled over the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin.

On 23 December 2007:

- Between 1000 and 1045 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Kila, circled over the regions of the South and the western Bekaa, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
- Between 1005 and 1025 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Kila, proceeded as far as Shikka, returned south, then left over Alma al-Sha`b;
- At 1040 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Kila, circled over Shikka and the South, where one of those warplanes released a black balloon bearing the inscription "Merry Christmas" over the area of Saddanah (on the outskirts of the towns of Kafr Shuba and Shab`a) near a post of the 10th Brigade; they then left over the sea off Naqurah at 1125 hours;
- Between 1300 and 1900 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft intermittently overflew the areas of Bint Jubayl and Tibnin.

On 24 December 2007:

- At 1025 hours, 10 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, four entering over Shab`a Farms heading in the direction of the Bekaa; four entering over Naqurah heading in the direction of the Bekaa; and two entering over the sea off Byblos (Jubayl) heading east. They circled over the Baalbek, Hirmil and al-Arz regions, then left over the sea off Naqurah at 1100;
- Between 1110 and 1145 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Kila, circled over the regions of the South, then left over Rumaysh.

On 25 December 2007, between 1530 and 1645 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes overflew the areas of Hasbayya and al-`Arqub at high altitude.

On 26 December 2007:

- Between 0900 and 1730 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha`b, circled over the South, the left over Rumaysh;

- Between 1036 and 1215 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Dayr Mimas, circled over Tripoli, Beirut and the South, then left over Alma al-Sha`b.

On 27 December 2007:

- Between 0535 and 0540 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft overflew Lebanese territorial waters off Ra's Naqurah;

- Between 2000 and 2100 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft overflew the area of Nabatiyah at high altitude.

On 28 December 2007:

- Between 0945 and 1000 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft overflew the towns of `Aytanit and Mashgharah;

- Between 1014 and 1025 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the occupied Shab`a Farms heading north, proceeded as far as the western Bekaa, then left over Yarun.

On 29 December 2007, at 2115 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha`b, circled over the regions of Riyaq, Baalbek and the South, then departed over Naqurah on 30 December 2007 at 0200 hours.

On 30 December 2007:

- Between 0935 and 1100 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Dayr Mimas heading north, proceeded as far as Tripoli, circled over all regions of Lebanon, then left over Alma al-Sha`b;

- Between 1100 and 1545 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh heading north, circled over the regions of the South, headed toward the Bekaa and circled between Riyaq and Baalbek, then left over Alma al-Sha`b;

- Between 1132 and 1220 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha`b, proceeded as far as Tripoli, circled over all regions of Lebanon, then left over Naqurah.

On 31 December 2007:

- Between 1010 and 1220 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah heading east, proceeded as far as Bint Jubayl, circled over the regions of the South, then left over the sea off Naqurah;

- Between 1100 and 1220 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Shuba heading north, proceeded as far as the Shuf, headed south and circled over the regions of the Shuf, the western Bekaa and the South, then left over the sea off Naqurah;

– Between 1615 and 1700 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes overflew the sea off Tyre at high altitude.

Sea violations

On 22 December 2007:

– At 0400 hours, an Israeli enemy gunboat inside Lebanese territorial waters directed a burst of gunfire towards a Lebanese fishing vessel located 50 metres north of the line of buoys;

– At 1732 hours, an Israeli enemy gunboat inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters fired a flare shell over a Lebanese fishing vessel located 200 yards north of the line of buoys. At 1800 hours, it fired another shell in the direction of that same fishing vessel, which then was 30 metres north of the line of buoys and 420 yards off the coast.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 22 December 2007, at 2000 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight from the Zar`it barracks (opposite the town of Marwahin) in the direction of a Lebanese Army position at Jabal Balat-Marwahin triangle and at the Tarbikha position.

On 23 December 2007, at 1800 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight for one minute from the Zar`it barracks in the direction of the Tarbikha gate. At 1845 hours and from the same barracks, the enemy shined a searchlight for 30 seconds in the direction of the Marwahin triangle as far as the Ramiyah gate. At 1905 hours, the enemy shined a searchlight for 10 seconds in the direction of Jabal Balat as far as the observation post of the Ghanaian contingent serving in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), whereupon the said unit shined a searchlight in the direction of the Zar`it barracks.

On 25 December 2007:

– At 0208 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight for two and a half minutes from the Zar`it barracks in the direction of the Marwahin triangle, the observation post of the Ghanaian contingent serving in UNIFIL, the Tarbikha gate, Jabal Balat, the position of the 6th Brigade and as far the south of Ramiyah;

– At 1705 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight for 15 seconds from the Zar`it barracks in the direction of the Marwahin triangle-Jabal Balat.

On 26 December 2007, at 2043 hours and again at 2300 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight for 10 seconds from the western gate of the Zar`it barracks in the direction of Jabal Balat-Marwahin triangle.

On 30 December 2007, between 1650 and 1720 hours, Israeli enemy forces fired several bursts of light-weapons fire from their position in Summaqah (opposite Kafr Shuba) towards the perimeter of the said position.

On 31 December 2007:

- Between 0830 and 1220 hours, an Israeli enemy excavator, accompanied by two Hummer vehicles, crossed the gate located near point B-41 in Jabal al-Tayyarat and proceeded to dig outside the technical fence opposite the towns of Yarun and Rumaysh (reservation point TP16);

- At 1715 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol shined a searchlight five times for a period of one minute in the direction of the checkpoint of the 11th Brigade of the Lebanese Army in the town of al-`Adaysa;

- At 1913 hours, the Israeli enemy shined a searchlight from its position at Dovev (opposite Yarun) in the direction of the position of the 11th Brigade of the Lebanese Army on Yarun hill (hill 750). Troops from the said position responded by shining a searchlight from a Jeep in the direction of the Israeli searchlight.